

CMTE 10

DCI/ICS 84-4011
30 March 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX
CAMS Integration Staff
[redacted]
FROM: [redacted]
Executive Secretary, IHC
SUBJECT: NERCM

LOGGED

30 MAR 1984

1. I have reviewed the NERCM [redacted] dated 16 January 1984 which you sent to this office. I congratulate you on producing a very detailed, yet understandable report. From the perspective of adherence with the Standard Community Intelligence Reporting Format, my review leads me to submit the following comments and questions.

- a. The definition for constructing serial numbers as given on pages 7, 55 and 87 will yield non-unique serial numbers as number sequences repeat each year. Since the implementation rules for the Community format requires the use of "unique and precise alphanumeric indicators for serial numbers," changes to serial field should be made. Suggest serial numbers include the last two digits of the year.
- b. On page 7, the comments opposite PRSGSJ needs to be repeated as comments opposite PRSGSR.
- c. It appears that the WARNNG record on page 9, which is included as part of the SUBJ: field, is actually a WARNING statement. While the standard format treats the WARNING field as optional and it may appear anywhere in the document, if used the standard format requires the use of the prosign "WARNING." Unless special and unique software processes were developed to search the SUBJ: field of documents in the NERCM's format for a WARNING, such fields could not be made the subject of a retrieval. While we have not evaluated the impact of not having this capability, if it were desired to include this without the necessity of specialized software, then this field should be labeled with the standard prosign "WARNING:" under the column titled "FIELD FORMAT/CONTENTS" opposite WARNNG. The comment that this is an optional requirement of the standard Community format should also be added.

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- d. On page 88, the letter "M" (indicating mandatory) is missing from the column titled "RECORD1" opposite the second line of PRSGTX.
- e. I recognize the multiple use of "REFERENCE(S)" in the examples given on pages 94 thru 118 of the NERCM. This is inconsistent with the standard format which designates "REF" as the authorized prosign. However, I also recognize that these "REFERENCE(S)" are actually part of the "TEXT" field. They are not intended as field designators within the context of the standard Community format. In other words, "TEXT" ends at the "DECL: OADR" field. Should receiving agencies desire to index on the content of the TEXT, they would refer to the NERCM. I raise this point to clarify the "apparent" departure from the standard format when, in fact, it is not.

2. Although these concerns are minor, I hope you would consider them as you make future revisions to the NERCM. If you have any questions, please call me at secure.

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